

1-1 By: Thompson of Harris, et al. H.B. No. 188  
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Menéndez)  
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 20, 2015;  
 1-4 April 23, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on  
 1-5 Criminal Justice; May 6, 2015, reported favorably by the following  
 1-6 vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 6, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			

1-16 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-17 AN ACT

1-18 relating to the composition, duties, and continuation of the human  
 1-19 trafficking prevention task force.

1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-21 SECTION 1. Sections 402.035(c), (d), and (h), Government  
 1-22 Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-23 (c) The task force is composed of the following:

1-24 (1) the governor or the governor's designee;

1-25 (2) the attorney general or the attorney general's  
 1-26 designee;

1-27 (3) the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
 1-28 Services Commission or the executive commissioner's designee;

1-29 (4) the commissioner of the Department of Family and  
 1-30 Protective Services or the commissioner's designee;

1-31 (5) the commissioner of the Department of State Health  
 1-32 Services or the commissioner's designee;

1-33 (6) the public safety director of the Department of  
 1-34 Public Safety or the director's designee;

1-35 (7) one representative from each of the following  
 1-36 state agencies, appointed by the chief administrative officer of  
 1-37 the respective agency:

1-38 (A) the Texas Workforce Commission;

1-39 (B) the Texas Department of Criminal Justice;

1-40 (C) the Texas Juvenile Justice Department ~~[Youth~~  
 1-41 ~~Commission,~~

1-42 [~~(D) the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission~~];

1-43 and

1-44 (D) [~~(E)~~] the Texas Alcoholic Beverage  
 1-45 Commission; and

1-46 (8) as appointed by the attorney general:

1-47 (A) a chief public defender employed by a public  
 1-48 defender's office, as defined by Article 26.044(a), Code of  
 1-49 Criminal Procedure, or an attorney designated by the chief public  
 1-50 defender;

1-51 (B) an attorney representing the state;

1-52 (C) a representative of:

1-53 (i) a hotel and motel association;

1-54 (ii) a district and county attorneys  
 1-55 association; ~~and~~

1-56 (iii) a state police association; and

1-57 (iv) a statewide medical association;

1-58 (D) representatives of sheriff's departments;

1-59 (E) representatives of local law enforcement  
 1-60 agencies affected by human trafficking; and

1-61 (F) representatives of nongovernmental entities

2-1 making comprehensive efforts to combat human trafficking by:

2-2 (i) identifying human trafficking victims;

2-3 (ii) providing legal or other services to

2-4 human trafficking victims;

2-5 (iii) participating in community outreach

2-6 or public awareness efforts regarding human trafficking;

2-7 (iv) providing or developing training

2-8 regarding the prevention of human trafficking; or

2-9 (v) engaging in other activities designed

2-10 to prevent human trafficking.

2-11 (d) The task force shall:

2-12 (1) collaborate, as needed to fulfill the duties of

2-13 the task force, with:

2-14 (A) United States attorneys for the districts of

2-15 Texas; and

2-16 (B) special agents or customs and border

2-17 protection officers and border patrol agents of:

2-18 (i) the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

2-19 (ii) the United States Drug Enforcement

2-20 Administration;

2-21 (iii) the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,

2-22 Firearms and Explosives;

2-23 (iv) United States Immigration and Customs

2-24 Enforcement; or

2-25 (v) the United States Department of

2-26 Homeland Security;

2-27 (2) collect, organize, and periodically publish

2-28 statistical data on the nature and extent of human trafficking in

2-29 this state, including data described by Subdivisions (4)(A), (B),

2-30 (C), (D), and (E);

2-31 (3) solicit cooperation and assistance from state and

2-32 local governmental agencies, political subdivisions of the state,

2-33 nongovernmental organizations, and other persons, as appropriate,

2-34 for the purpose of collecting and organizing statistical data under

2-35 Subdivision (2);

2-36 (4) ensure that each state or local governmental

2-37 agency and political subdivision of the state and each state or

2-38 local law enforcement agency, district attorney, or county attorney

2-39 that assists in the prevention of human trafficking collects

2-40 statistical data related to human trafficking, including, as

2-41 appropriate:

2-42 (A) the number of investigations concerning,

2-43 arrests and prosecutions for, and convictions of:

2-44 (i) the offense of trafficking of persons;

2-45 ~~and~~

2-46 (ii) the offense of forgery or an offense

2-47 under Chapter 43, Penal Code, if the offense was committed as part

2-48 of a criminal episode involving the trafficking of persons; and

2-49 (iii) an offense punishable under Section

2-50 43.02(c)(3), Penal Code, regardless of whether the offense was

2-51 committed as part of a criminal episode involving the trafficking

2-52 of persons;

2-53 (B) demographic information on persons who are

2-54 convicted of offenses described by Paragraph (A) and persons who

2-55 are the victims of those offenses;

2-56 (C) geographic routes by which human trafficking

2-57 victims are trafficked, including routes by which victims are

2-58 trafficked across this state's international border, and

2-59 geographic patterns in human trafficking, including the country or

2-60 state of origin and the country or state of destination;

2-61 (D) means of transportation and methods used by

2-62 persons who engage in trafficking to transport their victims; and

2-63 (E) social and economic factors that create a

2-64 demand for the labor or services that victims of human trafficking

2-65 are forced to provide;

2-66 (5) work with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement

2-67 ~~[Officer Standards and Education]~~ to develop and conduct training

2-68 for law enforcement personnel, victim service providers, and

2-69 medical service providers to identify victims of human trafficking;

3-1 (6) work with the Texas Education Agency, the  
3-2 Department of Family and Protective Services, and the Health and  
3-3 Human Services Commission to:

3-4 (A) develop a list of key indicators that a  
3-5 person is a victim of human trafficking;

3-6 (B) develop a standardized curriculum for  
3-7 training doctors, nurses, emergency medical services personnel,  
3-8 teachers, school counselors, school administrators, and personnel  
3-9 from the Department of Family and Protective Services and the  
3-10 Health and Human Services Commission to identify and assist victims  
3-11 of human trafficking;

3-12 (C) train doctors, nurses, emergency medical  
3-13 services personnel, teachers, school counselors, school  
3-14 administrators, and personnel from the Department of Family and  
3-15 Protective Services and the Health and Human Services Commission to  
3-16 identify and assist victims of human trafficking;

3-17 (D) develop and conduct training for personnel  
3-18 from the Department of Family and Protective Services and the  
3-19 Health and Human Services Commission on methods for identifying  
3-20 children in foster care who may be at risk of becoming victims of  
3-21 human trafficking; and

3-22 (E) develop a process for referring identified  
3-23 human trafficking victims and individuals at risk of becoming  
3-24 victims to appropriate entities for services;

3-25 (7) on the request of a judge of a county court, county  
3-26 court at law, or district court or a county attorney, district  
3-27 attorney, or criminal district attorney, assist and train the judge  
3-28 or the judge's staff or the attorney or the attorney's staff in the  
3-29 recognition and prevention of human trafficking;

3-30 (8) examine training protocols related to human  
3-31 trafficking issues, as developed and implemented by federal, state,  
3-32 and local law enforcement agencies;

3-33 (9) collaborate with state and local governmental  
3-34 agencies, political subdivisions of the state, and nongovernmental  
3-35 organizations to implement a media awareness campaign in  
3-36 communities affected by human trafficking;

3-37 (10) develop recommendations on how to strengthen  
3-38 state and local efforts to prevent human trafficking, protect and  
3-39 assist human trafficking victims, and prosecute human trafficking  
3-40 offenders; ~~and~~

3-41 (11) examine the extent to which human trafficking is  
3-42 associated with the operation of sexually oriented businesses, as  
3-43 defined by Section 243.002, Local Government Code, and the  
3-44 workplace or public health concerns that are created by the  
3-45 association of human trafficking and the operation of sexually  
3-46 oriented businesses; and

3-47 (12) develop recommendations for addressing the  
3-48 demand for forced labor or services or sexual conduct involving  
3-49 victims of human trafficking, including recommendations for  
3-50 increased penalties for individuals who engage or attempt to engage  
3-51 in prostitution with victims younger than 18 years of age.

3-52 (h) This section expires September 1, 2017 ~~[2015]~~.

3-53 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
3-54 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
3-55 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
3-56 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
3-57 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

3-58 \* \* \* \* \*